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MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does it arise out of the question under discussion ; I fear it does not."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is it a fact that those students who have been selected in the ordinary course without reference to so-called merit, have been found to be inefficient and unfit for their work?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " No."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" On what consideration, Sir, was the merit percentage fixed? Why only 20 per cent and not $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " It is just an idea, Sir. There is nothing very logical about it."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, why not cent per cent be set apart for merit alone?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " If the hon. Member is serious about it, it will be considered."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I would like to inform the Hon. Minister that we want that all sections of the people should be given opportunities of education, both in the Arts and professional colleges and having regard to that, I would like to ask him whether he would see that weightage is given wherever necessary in view of prevalent inequalities until those inequalities are set right?"

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Am I right in assuming, Sir, that the merit percentage is applicable to the Engineering College only?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " As far as I am concerned, only the Engineering College."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I take it, Sir, that with regard to admission to other colleges, the instructions which the Hon. the Minister read out hold good?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " Yes."

Permits for the sale of motor cars.

* 23 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the sale of motor cars is confined to permit-holders only ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, who is the competent authority to issue the permits;

(c) whether any rules have been framed to govern the issue of those permits ;

(d) what is the number of permits issued so far and the names of permit-holders ;

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(*e*) whether persons already having cars in good condition are refused permission;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that permits have been issued even to persons having one or more cars in good condition;

(*g*) whether exigencies of business or necessity for a conveyance are sufficient reasons for the grant of a permit;

(*h*) whether it is a fact that even new cars after a few days' use are being disposed of as used cars even at a premium;

(*i*) what steps the Government propose to take to check this and such other abuses; and

(*j*) whether any enquiry is caused before issuing a permit and followed up to ensure that the privilege is not abused?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) No. The sale of new motor cars is made to holders of permits issued under the Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1945 (an order of the Central Government), but that order also provides that where any controlled motor car has been lying in the show room of a dealer or sub-dealer ready for sale and delivery for more than 45 days, without being demanded by a person holding a permit, the dealer or sub-dealer, as the case may be, may sell or otherwise dispose of that controlled motor car to any person whatsoever even though a permit has not been issued in his favour.

" (*b*) The Provincial Motor Transport Controller is the competent authority for the issue of permits.

" (*c*) Under the Civil Motor Cars Control Order, the permits are issued at the discretion of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller. At the Controller's request, the Government have issued certain instructions for his guidance as explained in a Press Communiqué issued on 13th July 1946.

" (*d*) Up to 26th July 1946, 228 permits for the puchase of new cars have been issued by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller. A list[a] of persons to whom the permits were issued is placed on the table of the House.

" (*e*) In assigning priority for the issue of permits preference is given to those who do not possess cars.

" (*f*) Permits have in some cases been issued to persons having only one car registered in their name. In most cases, their existing cars were old and some of those cars though in fair condition were stated to be uneconomical and undependable. In the case of big firms and institutions, permits have been issued, even though they were owning more than one car in fair condition, considering their needs."

" (*g*) The answer to this question is in the affirmative, subject to availability of cars and the applicant's eligibility according to the priority fixed by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 250–252 infra.

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" (*h*) The Provincial Motor Transport Controller reports that he is aware of only one instance in which a new car was sold after purchase by the permit holder. The Provincial Motor Transport Controller himself fixed the price of this car making a deduction from the controlled price and ordered the car to be sold to an essential user who had already applied for a new car.

" (*i*) Such a person of course will not get a permit again. No other check is proposed or possible.

" (*j*) Generally speaking no enquiry is made before or after issue of permits. The statements in the applications are taken as genuine. It is not possible to make enquiries in each and every case. In doubtful cases the local authorities are consulted as to the necessity and where the applicant owns a car the Motor Vehicles Inspectors are asked to report on its condition.

" No enquiries are being made to follow up the history of the vehicles bought on permits. It is to be mentioned here that under the Civil Motor Vehicles Control Order the sale of controlled cars, after registration and use on the roads, is not illegal."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask the Hon. the Premier whether in the case of the 228 permit holders any efforts were made to find out whether they possessed cars and if so, whether the cars which they possessed were not useful and then permits were issued? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I suppose that follows from the answer. Generally all efforts have been made to find out the particulars."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If anybody reads through the list or if the Hon. the Premier himself goes through the list, he will find that some big officials and some big merchants who possess cars already have been given permits for the purchase of new cars."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" May I suggest that if the hon. Member comes across such a case, he might bring it to the notice of the Government."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" That is why, Sir, instead of taking individual instances to the notice of Government I suggested in the question itself that information may be furnished regarding the steps Government propose to take to see that only those who need cars get them. The suggestion was that an enquiry should be held as in the case of other permits or licences. Supposing I was a cloth dealer's licence, it is not immediately given as soon as I apply for it, but an enquiry is made by officers."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" On a point of order, may I suggest, Sir, that question time is not the time for arguments."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think, the Hon. the Premier will answer that question."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Such enquiries have been generally made. I myself heard several complaints from those who were not able to get what they wanted immediately."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" May I know what is the procedure adopted to find out the need for the possession of cars ? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" If the hon. Gentleman would put a separate question in fairly clear form, a reply will be attempted."

SRI S. JAYARAM REDDIYAR :—" There are some cases of issue of permits to two members of the same family. Will the Hon. the Premier lay down a principle that as far as possible one car circulates among the members of the family ? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" The Provincial Motor Transport Controller must have been satisfied with the need for it."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is there any priority for giving such cars ? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Yes. The whole thing hinges upon priority."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know if it is a fact that certain permit holders whose names appear here sold their cars at very high prices and purchased new cars at low prices ? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Such things are possible. But we have no definite information."

Courses of studies in the Government Textile Institute and the revival of the Supervisor's Course.

*18 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) What courses of studies are at present available in the Government Textile Institute ;

(b) whether what was known as the Supervisor's course has been abolished ;

(c) whether the Supervisor's course provided training for foremen employed in the spinning and weaving mills ;

(d) whether the abolition of the Supervisor's course has resulted in depriving the textile industry of a class of essential skilled workers ; and

(e) whether it is proposed to revive the Supervisor's course or anything akin to it in the near future ?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (a) The following courses of instructions are now available in the Institute :—

(1) Weaving Instructors' Course.

(2) Artisan Course in Hand Knitting.